

**RANKIN-HINDS PEARL RIVER  
FLOOD AND DRAINAGE CONTROL DISTRICT**  
*"Protecting Rankin and Hinds County"*

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March 8, 2010

Department of the Army  
Vicksburg District, Corps of Engineers  
4155 Clay Street  
Vicksburg, Mississippi 39183-3435

Attn: Jeffrey R. Eckstein  
Colonel, Corps of Engineers  
District Commander

Re: Pearl River Watershed

Dear Colonel Eckstein:

The Rankin-Hinds Pearl River Flood and Drainage Control District (the Flood Control District) acknowledges receipt of your letter of February 10, 2010 regarding issues related to resumption of the Pearl River Watershed Planning Activities. We wish to reaffirm that the Flood Control District is desirous of continued collaboration with the Corps toward completion of the necessary Decision Document; and, to that end, we recognize that the Project Management Plan (PMP) will need to be revised to define the scope of work going forward. However, your letter falls short of ensuring that completion of the necessary Decision Document is prosecuted with full and proper recognition of the authority granted the project under Section 3104 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007. With this point in mind, and in an effort to clarify the activities that you mentioned in your letter as needing to be addressed prior to revision of the PMP, we will address this critical issue at a different time and place to clarify issues related to the consideration of the Lower Lake, access to the river, recreational features and development of tributaries, in particular, Town Creek.

In addition to the issues above, your letter asked for information related to final comments on the Preliminary Draft FS/EIS and reconciliation of the funds expended by the Flood Control District as the local sponsor of the project. We will address these two issues below.

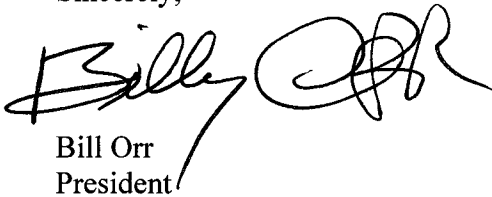
1. Since the Corps delivered the Preliminary Draft FS/EIS to us for review in February 2007, the Flood Control District has maintained virtually continuous dialogue with Vicksburg regarding all aspects of the documents and our collaborative partnership moving forward. This dialogue has consisted of extensive written and oral communications and more than fourteen (14) meetings related to technical aspects of the documents and/or the plans included therein. As we move forward with the Corps, it will be necessary to address these and other issues in the development of the Project Management Plan.

2. Also raised in your letter of February 10 is the matter of financial reconciliation between the federal and non-federal partners to the Feasibility Cost-Sharing Agreement (FCSA), for which the last information exchange appears to be June 2006. We have compiled an updated accounting of costs incurred by the Flood Control District under the FCSA, including work-in-kind, cash contributions, and credits for time expended by members of the Flood Control District Board of Directors and will provide same under separate communication.

We wish to reiterate that the Flood Control District is anxious to resume work activities for a comprehensive flood control solution and, to that end, are ready to move forward with revision of the Project Management Plan in accordance with Section 3104 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, and other relevant provisions.

We look forward to successful project resumption and completion.

Sincerely,



Bill Orr  
President

Communications with Corps related to February 2007 draft FS/EIS	
Date	Activity
2/14/2007	Corps submits draft FS/EIS, determines LeFleur Lakes Plan unacceptable, cost and environmental problems
3/15/2007	Charette week, LeFleur Lakes plan unacceptable, Lower Lake Plan emerges as reasonable alternative
4/24/2007	Corps/FCD staff meet to discuss possible modifications to Feb 2007 report, including adding 2 new modifications, Lower Lake and Upper Lake alternatives
5/31/2007	FCD letter requests Corps evaluate hydraulics to determine if new alternative of the Lower Lake and Upper Lake concepts would work
6/1/2007	Meeting with Corps, Corps open to the idea that Lower Lake could be treated as conservation measure, agrees to model Upper Lake and Lower Lake options
7/1/2007	Corps informs FCD that Lower Lake plan will work hydraulically
7/16/2007	FCD Adopts Lower Lake Plan as Locally Preferred Plan
8/1/2007	Corps provides FCD with written budget and schedule to update Levee Plan and to include Lower Lake Alternative
8/6/2007	FCD/Corps Meeting in Vicksburg to discuss Flood Control Plan
10/9/2007	Meeting with Corps Headquarters to discuss MOA with Corps for moving forward with flood control evaluation
3/31/2008	Board correspondence with the Corps regarding issues with alternatives
4/22/2008	WLWS meeting with the Corps regarding issues with study alternatives and related
5/9/2008	WLWS meeting with the Corps regarding issues with study alternatives and related
5/9/2008	Board correspondence with the Corps regarding issues with alternatives
5/19/2008	FCD/Corps Meeting in Vicksburg to discuss Flood Control Plan/environmental emphasis
5/22/2008	Members of FCD meeting with John Woodley to discuss moving ahead with flood damage reduction project in Ms
6/17/2008	WLWS meeting with the Corps regarding alternatives
6/17/2008	WLWS teleconference with the Corps regarding alternatives to address corps concerns
7/14/2008	Woodley letter in response to May 2008 meeting with FCD
8/31/2008	WLWS teleconference with the Corps regarding alternative plans
9/28/2008	WLWS meeting with the Corps re alternative plans
11/26/2008	Corps letter acknowledging FCD desire to include Lower Lake as alternative in the FS/EIS
3/4/2009	WLWS meeting with the Corps regarding environmental and related issues to plans
6/26/2009	Corps attends FCD Board meeting to discuss EIS/FS
7/22/2009	FCD ltr to Corps asking for explanation of changes to the LeFluer Lakes Plan, 1-cost 2-environmental 3-flood damage reduction
8/7/2009	WLWS teleconference with the Corps regarding alternative plans
8/10/2009	FCD passes resolution to proceed with Corps to modify PMP to include all "Reasonable Alternatives"
9/25/2009	WLWS teleconference with the Corps regarding alternative plans and corps concerns with same
9/25/2009	Board correspondence with the Corps regarding issues with study
9/28/2009	FCD/Corps Meeting in Vicksburg to discuss Flood Control Plan
10/1/2009	WLWS meeting with the Corps regarding options to existing plans
10/2/2009	WLWS teleconference with the Corps
12/14/2009	FCD adopts NED (Levee Plan) with conditions, including Lower Lake evaluation
Once the February 2007 draft FS/EIS concluded LeFleur Lakes plan unacceptable, the entire focus of FCD and Corps turned to the new idea of the Lower Lake.	